Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Sunday 03 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Monday 04 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Sunday 03 Jan 2021 at 02:22

Confidence: High for a showery easterly flow into Wednesday, turning dry later Wednesday, then lowering confidence for the timing and wintry detail of the change to a westerly frontal pattern for Thursday.

Headline for Sunday 03 Jan 2021: Sunshine and showers. Strong summit winds bringing severe wind chill at height.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 03 Jan 2021

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Light snow	Cloudy	Light snow showers	Light snow showers (night)	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
30%	20%	10%	20%	20%	10%

Forecast for Sunday 03 Jan 2021

Weather: Mostly cloudy with occasional showers, falling as snow above 300-400m, although the western Fells largely dry with some sunny then clear spells.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Ranging from 30% in east where bases will be broken from 500-800m, and 95% plus in the west where bases only sporadically lowering across the summits.

Visibility: Good or very good, lowering to virtually nil in snow showers.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Sunday 03 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	36/42 NE	30/36 NE	21/26 NE	29/36 NE	31/39 NE	30/38 NE	30/38 NE
600	18/24 NE	18/24 NE	14/18 NE	20/27 NE	19/27 NE	21/28 NE	19/26 NE
300	5/21 N	7/21 N	6/17 NE	7/23 NE	7/25 NE	8/25 NE	6/22 NE
Valley	13/32 NE	11/27 N	9/19 NE	8/22 NE	9/26 NE	9/24 NE	8/22 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-3/-13	-3/-12	-3/-11	-3/-11	-3/-12	-3/-12	-3/-12
600	-2/-9	-2/-8	-1/-7	-1/-8	-2/-8	-2/-9	-2/-8
300	0/-2	0/-3	1/-2	1/-2	0/-3	0/-4	0/-3
Valley	2/-2	2/-2	4/0	4/1	3/-1	2/-2	2/-1
Freezing Level*	300m	400m	500m	500m	400m	300m	400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Icy conditions will persist on many paths. Most difficult conditions in the east where hill fog and showers will be more focused, combining with brisk winds which bring a severe chill effect at height.

Forecast for Monday 04 Jan 2021

Weather: Another day of sunshine and showers, with eastern ranges most exposed. However outbreaks lighter and less frequent than Sunday. Snow level around 400m.

Maximum wind: East to northeast 25-30mph with gusts 40mph across most exposed ridges and summits. Winds decreasing later.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Ranging from 50% in east where bases will be scattered or broken from 500-800m, and 95% plus in the west where bases only sporadically lowering across the summits, mostly in and around the showers.

Visibility: Good or very good, lowering to virtually nil in snow showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 3 Celsius increasing plus 3 Celsius during the afternoon
At 800m: Minus 3-4 Celsius
Freezing level: Around 500M

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Saturday 2 January Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:09 Full report: A few fleeting snow showers during the morning but otherwise the ground conditions remain very similar to yesterday. Although it was a generally fine day today, conditions in the fells are very challenging at the moment. Terrain remains widely frozen down to valley level and compacted snow on the paths and ice at all levels present real hazards, especially around drainage lines and stream crossings. Lower slopes are particularly affected by ice, and microspikes and/or walking poles are a real asset. The snow level remains at roughly 300m and increases a little with height to roughly boot-deep in areas where it hasn't been disturbed by the wind. Knee-deep drifts are present in many sheltered dips and hollows. High ground exposed to the wind tends to be relatively well scoured, and exposed rock across the summit plateau is well covered in rime ice. As such, many of the paths are very difficult to see when the cloud comes in calling for good navigation skills. Swirral and Striding edge are both in full winter condition and great care is required on this, and any similar exposed routes from which a fall could be very serious and potentially fatal. Small cornices have formed on many different aspects, typically around corrie and gully rims and along ridge flanks. These are comprised of soft unstable snow and should be given a wide berth. Some small upland tarns have frozen over and with snow on the top of the ice, they can be quite difficult to see and present an additional hazard. Wintery conditions look set to continue for the time being. As such, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots, and equipment including a headtorch are all essential for anyone going out onto the fells. For those venturing into the higher fells and considering routes on steep or exposed ground, an ice axe and crampons are essential. With Tier 4 restrictions now in place, we would like to urge all hill goers to act responsibly and well within your level of comfort and ability. Temperature: minus 4.7 C, Maximum wind speed 36.8mph, Wind chill: minus 15.4 C, Average wind speed: 27.1mph
Issued at: 02:22 on Sun 03 Jan 2021

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